

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 136140
ORIGIN SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /006 R

66011

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-----013837 301611Z /47

R 301530Z MAY 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 136140

ATHENS FOR TSO

FOLLOWING IS REPEAT LONDON 08185, ACTION SECSTATE 24 MAY:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 08185

FOR DEPARTMENT FROM ATO

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJ: FIRE ESCAPE CONSTRUCTION - AMERICAN EMBASSY, SOFIA

REF: STATE 130652

FOLLOWING IS QUOTE OF LONDON 7443 SENT SOFIA, BUCHAREST,
BONN (INFO) ON 11 MAY 1978:

"1. WISH TO CONFIRM DISCUSSION ON APRIL 28, 1978,
BETWEEN EMBASSY SOFIA ADMIN OFFICER/PSO AND ATO REPRESENTATIVE (AND TO ADVISE RSO AND RCO) OF THE CONCERNS OF ATO WITH THE POSSIBLE SECURITY RAMIFICATIONS DURING THE
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CONSTRUCTION BY BULGARIAN WORKMEN OF A FIRE ESCAPE ON THE
EMBASSY BUILDING REAR WALL.

"2. AS WE UNDERSTAND, THE DESIGN OF THE FIRE ESCAPE IS
CURRENTLY BEING REVIEWED BY BULGARIAN OFFICE FOR CONSTRUCTION. AS PRESENTLY DESIGNED, THE FIRE ESCAPE IS TO
PROVIDE EMERGENCY EXITING FROM THE MSG QUARTERS TO THE

LOW ONE STORY ROOF AREA OF THE NON-EMBASSY BLDG ABUTTING AT THE REAR OF THE EMBASSY. THE FIRE ESCAPE WILL NOT BE ATTACHED TO THE REAR WALL OF THE TCU/C&R AREAS. HOWEVER, LOCAL WORKMEN WILL BE REQUIRED TO USE SCAFFOLDING ON THE REAR WALL OF THE BUILDING (INCLUDING THE TCU/C&R AREA WALL) FOR THE INSTALLATION OF THE FIRE ESCAPE. WE ARE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED OVER THE POSSIBILITIES OF HOSTILE TECHNICAL ATTACK AGAINST THE EMBASSY'S CLASSIFIED COMMUNICATIONS DURING THE ENTIRE PERIOD FROM INSTALLATION OF THE SCAFFOLDING TO IT'S DISMANTLING.

"3. BELIEVE IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO UTILIZE A SEABEE CONSTRUCTION TEAM (CONSEC) TO MONITOR THE BULGARIAN WORKMEN DURING INSTALLATION OF SCAFFOLDING, CONSTRUCTION OF THE FIRE ESCAPE, AND TO THE COMPLETE DISMANTLING OF THE SCAFFOLDING. ALSO, MSG AFTER HOURS COVERAGE OF THE CONSTRUCTION AREA IS SEEN AS BEING REQUIRED FOR AS LONG AS THE SCAFFOLDING IS IN PLACE.

"4. IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE SOFIA PSO AND RSO, BUCHAREST, COORDINATE ON THE REQUEST FOR THE CONSEC TEAM FROM SY/OPS/FO IN ACCORDANCE WITH SY OFFICE LETTER NUMBER D-78/1, DATED FEBRUARY 10, 1978. PLEASE KEEP ATO/RCO ADVISED ON CONSTRUCTION PLANNING FOR THIS PROJECT. BREWSTER"

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STREATOR UNQUOTE. VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE136140
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: A/SY/OPS/FO:ADHANREHAN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780226-0097
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978057/aaaaafnv.tel
Line Count: 95
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 16208ea0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SY
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 130652
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2722916
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FIRE ESCAPE CONSTRUCTION - AMERICAN EMBASSY, SOFIA
TAGS: ASEC
To: ATHENS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/16208ea0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014